United States Government

Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

memorandum

DATE: JAN 2 9 2004

REPLY TO ATTN OF: FO:EW

SUBJECT: Transmittal of 2004 Annual National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Planning Summary

TO: Beverly Cook, EH-1, HQ/FORS

Attached is the Annual NEPA Planning Summary for 2004 for the Los Alamos Site Office, as required by Section 5.a.(7) of DOE Order 451.1B. The planning summary includes the status of ongoing NEPA compliance activities and a projection of environmental assessments for the next 12 months and environmental impact statements for the next 24 months. Cost and schedule information, where available, is included for each project.

If you have any questions about this annual NEPA report, please direct them to Elizabeth Withers, NEPA Compliance Officer, at (505) 667-8690.

Ralph E. Erickson
Manager

Attachment

cc w/ attachment

C. Borgstrom, EH-42, HQ/FORS
J. Daniel, EH-42, HQ/FORS
E. Withers, FO, LASO
V. Loucks, FO, LASO
J. Stetson, PWT, LASO
J. Isaacson, RRES-ECO, LANL, MS-M887
D. Pava, RRES-ECO, LANL, MS-M887

FEB 6 2004
Rec'd 2/6/04

2004 ANNUAL NEPA PLANNING SUMMARY
LOS ALAMOS SITE OFFICE

Expected Environmental Impact Statements Within Next 24 Months

Ongoing EISs at LASO

Chemistry and Metallurgy Research (CMR) Building Replacement Project
A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS was published in the Federal Register on July 23, 2002 (67 FR 48160). The public scoping ended on August 31, 2002. The draft EIS was released for public comment on May 8, 2003. A Notice of Availability was published in the Federal Register on May 15, 2003 (68 FR 26296). The comment period closed on June 30, 2003. Public hearings were held on June 3 and on June 4, 2003. The Environmental Protection Agency's Notice of Availability (NOA) for the final EIS was published in the Federal Register on November 21, 2003 (68 FR 65705). The ROD is planned for issuance early 2004. The EIS analyzed the environmental impacts that could result from the consolidation and relocation of mission critical chemistry and metallurgy research capabilities at LANL from aging facilities at the current CMR Building in TA-3.

Several alternatives were analyzed in the EIS: (1) Relocate CMR capabilities from TA-3 to new facilities in TA-55 near the existing Plutonium Facility (Proposed Action); (2) Relocate CMR capabilities from TA-3 to new facilities built on undisturbed land in or near TA-55; (3) Retain limited office functions and light laboratory operations at the existing CMR facility and move analytical chemistry and materials characterization capabilities to new facilities in or near TA-55; and (4) Continue CMR mission activities at the current location and do not construct new facilities (No Action Alternative).

Schedule: EIS Determination: 6/27/2002
NOI: 7/23/2002
Scoping Meeting(s): 8/13-15/2002
DEIS: 5/2003
FEIS: 11/2003
ROD: 2/2004 estimated

Cost: Estimated $ TBD

Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for the Continued Operation of Los Alamos National Laboratory – Supplement Analysis
A supplement analysis will be prepared to determine if the current environmental assessment (DOE/EIS-0238) completed in 1999, must be revised. This activity is taken in accordance with Council on Environmental Quality regulations at Title 40, Section 1502.9 (c) of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 1502.9 (c)) that require federal agencies to prepare a supplement to an EIS when an agency makes substantial changes in the proposed action that are relevant to environmental concerns, or there are circumstances or information relevant to concerns and bearing on the proposed action or its impacts. This analysis will review changes that may have

occurred during the past five years since the Record of Decision and to assure that the Los Alamos National Laboratory is being operated consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Schedule: SA Determination: 12/2003
Draft SA: TBD
Final SA: TBD

Cost: Estimated $ TBD

Recovery and Storage of Strontium-90 (Sr-90) Fueled Radioisotope Thermal Electric Generators at Los Alamos National Laboratory - Supplement Analysis to the Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for the Continued Operation of Los Alamos National Laboratory
Prepared to determine if the Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for the Continued Operation of Los Alamos National Laboratory adequately addresses the environmental effects of recovery and storage for disposal of six (6) Sr-90 fueled radioisotope thermal electric generators at TA-54, Area G. This activity is taken in accordance with Council on Environmental Quality regulations at Title 40, Section 1502.9 (c) of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 1502.9 (c) that require federal agencies to prepare a supplement to an EIS when an agency makes substantial changes in the proposed action that are relevant to environmental concerns, or there are circumstances or information relevant to concerns and bearing on the proposed action or its impacts.

Schedule: SA Determination: 12/2003
Final SA: 1/22/2004

Cost: Estimated $ TBD

Projected EISs at LASO

Programmatic EIS for Large-Scale Environmental Remediation Projects at LANL
This EIS would encompass those large-scale clean-up projects at LANL that would be expected to have significant environmental, safety, and health issues. Currently, LANL's Environmental Restoration (ER) Project has identified 12 major clean-up projects in its accelerated remediation plan. Nine of these projects are for material disposal areas (MDAs) where hazardous and/or radiological wastes have been buried in shafts, pits, and trenches on mesa tops at LANL. The other three sites include an inactive firing site, a PCB container surface disposal area, and an outfall where the byproducts of high explosives manufacturing were disposed. RCRA Facility Investigations (RFIs) have been completed for most of these sites. Each of these sites is scheduled to undergo the complete corrective action process, including Corrective Measures Study (CMS) and Corrective Measures Implementation (CMI). The EIS would analyze potential environmental effects, identify potential remediation technologies, and identify environmental impacts to be addressed in a Mitigation Action Plan.

Schedule: EIS Determination TBD
NOI TBD
Scoping Meeting(s) TBD
DEIS TBD
FEIS TBD
ROD TBD

Cost: Estimated $ TBD

Expected Environmental Assessments Within Next 12 Months

Ongoing EAs at LASO:

EA for the Proposed Renovation of Building 55-41 and the Subsequent Installation and Operation of Radiographic Equipment Therein

A determination was made on March 22, 2002 to prepare an EA for the proposed action in compliance with NEPA. The proposal would require considerable renovation of Building 55-41, which was constructed in the 1980's as the Nuclear Material Storage Facility and was never operated as intended. No radioactive material has been stored in the building and its only use has been for office space and equipment storage. The proposed renovations would accommodate x-ray generator and associated support equipment needed to perform non-destructive examinations of nuclear assemblies and components. Waste generation, human health issues, and cumulative effects are concerns in the analysis of this proposed action.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: 8/15/2002
Draft EA: This EA is currently on hold.
Final EA and FONSI: TBD

Cost: Estimated $80K

EA for the Proposed Issuance of a Special Use Permit to the Incorporated County of Los Alamos for the Establishment of a New Municipal Solid Waste Landfill within Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico

A determination was made on November 26, 2002 to prepare an EA for the proposed action in compliance with NEPA. The proposal is considering the issuance of a Special Use Permit to the Incorporated County of Los Alamos for the development and operation of a new, modern sanitary landfill within the boundaries of LANL. The landfill would serve Los Alamos County community users and LANL solid waste disposal needs. Public drop-off, recycling, and compacting would occur at the existing LANL landfill site to reduce volume, litter and traffic at a new landfill. Waste would then be moved periodically by truck to the new landfill for final disposal. A working draft was completed on August 25, 2003 that analyzed two locations for the proposed action, and a no-action alternative. The County Manager requested that the LASO Manager place the EA "on-hold" pending the outcome of more detailed geo-technical and feasibility studies that the County has begun.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: 12/10/2002
Draft EA: on hold pending outcome of County studies
Final EA and FONSI: TBD

Cost: Estimated $85K

EA for the Proposed Remediation of the Material Disposal Area (MDA) H at TA 54 at LANL
A determination was made on December 16, 2002 to prepare an EA for the proposed action in compliance with NEPA. The proposal is for the remediation of Material Disposal Area (MDA) H at Technical Area (TA) 54. MDA H is an inactive waste disposal area that has been extensively studied and is ready to enter the final remediation phase under the RCRA Corrective Action Program. It will be the first remediation of a major MDA at LANL. MDA H is approximately 0.3 acres in size and consists of nine 60-ft-deep shafts used between 1960 and 1986 for the disposal of classified solid-form waste generated by LANL. Several alternatives will be considered ranging from site stabilization and monitoring to complete removal.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: 12/20/2002
Draft EA: TBD
Final EA and FONSI: TBD

Cost: Estimated $86K

Projected EAs at LASO:

Construction of a New Storage Area for Special Nuclear Material at TA-55
This effort is proposed as a task that is part of phase two future needs identified within S Division's Project 455. It supports pit manufacturing and is part of a Laboratory-wide denial strategy. NMT Division is currently driving the project, with S Division support. This effort may become an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement depending on the information currently developing.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: TBD
Draft EA: TBD
Final EA and FONSI: TBD

Cost: Estimated $110K

Supplement Amendment for Security Perimeter Project
A supplement amendment will be prepared to determine if a proposal to redesign the Jemez and Diamond intersection, establish an access control station at West Jemez Road at State Road 4, and modify access to the Pajarito Mountain Ski Area, is within the bounds of the effects analyzed in recent environmental assessments including EA-1429: Access Control and Traffic Improvements at LANL. This will result either in a decision to issue a finding that the proposed action is within the bounds already analyzed, or to prepare a supplemental EA.

Schedule: Completion by April 30, 2004

Cost: Estimated $20K

EA for Waste Management Facility Strategic Plan

The Waste Facilities Management (WFM) Group developed a Facility Strategic Plan that was reviewed and approved by LANL management in September 2002. It addresses radioactive and chemical waste facilities managed by the WFM Group of the Facilities and Waste Operations (FWO) Division. These facilities are located at TA-21, TA-50 and TA-54. The plan does not address waste facilities currently operated by other Divisions, but could in the future, as some operations will transfer to FWO-WFM. There are 14 projects listed in the FWO Waste Management Facility Strategic Plan summary shown in the LANL Ten Year Comprehensive Site Plan (TYCSP). Projects include relocation of activities, consolidation, new facilities, relocation of an 115kV electrical power transmission line relocation, and site reconfiguration of the entrance to TA-54.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: October 2003
Draft EA: TBD
Final EA and FONSI: TBD

Cost: Estimated $100K

EA for LANSCE Facility Strategic Plan

LANSCE Division developed a Facility Strategic Plan that was approved by management and submitted to DOE for LANL performance measures in October FY03. As stated in the FSP summary of the Ten Year Comprehensive Site Plan, LANSCE's vision is: "During the next ten years, the facilities in the LANSCE Division will be transformed into modern spaces that will enhance the production of protons and neutrons, and in doing so encourage closer interaction among all personnel, reduce operating costs, and incorporate environmental, safety, and security concerns into their design." To support the Ten Year Plan, the Division is developing a list of approximately 178 buildings as proposed excess space and 30 new projects that support the achievement of goals and vision. LANSCE recommends replacement of all transportables with permanent buildings, consolidation of new buildings in a manner that creates a campus environment around the central experimental area, replace transportainers with permanent storage buildings, and construct a visitor reception/badging/training facility outside the main gate to the site.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: October 2003
Draft EA: TBD
Final EA and FONSI: TBD

Cost: Estimated $100K

EA for TA-33 Facility Strategic Plan

An environmental assessment would be prepared to analyze the proposals set forth in the TA-33 Facility Strategic Plan to use this site in support of homeland and international security programs.

The site currently has 10 structures with 9 of them over 40 years old. However, it is remotely located with significant natural barriers to access and has sufficient developable land. Projects could include: bunker revitalization to support experimental activities; utilities and infrastructure upgrades, some GPP-level structures for housing staff and basic capabilities to support electronics and machine shops, radio frequency optics, laser and computer labs; and materials processing. Up to four support buildings could eventually be built for specific project support experiments. Funding for these projects is anticipated to be non-DOE. Program funds to begin the first GGP-level project are anticipated in FY04.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: TBD
Draft EA: TBD
Final EA and FONSI: TBD

Cost: Estimated $100K

EA for the Operation of a Biosafety Level 3 Laboratory at Los Alamos National Laboratory
NNSA will prepare a new environmental assessment (EA) that would be a stand-alone document tiered from the original LANL EA for this facility presenting a description of new information about the facility as constructed that may vary from the generic structure analyzed in the original EA. The new EA would then look at structure differences, equipment differences and operational differences that are now anticipated for both normal operations and for off-normal (accident) conditions.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: 01/04
Draft EA: 05/04
Final EA and FONSI: 06/04

Cost: Estimated $ TBD